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REVIEWS

La France économique et sociale à la veille de la Révolution: Les campagnes. Par MAXIME KOVALEWSKY, professeur à l'Université de Saint-Pétersbourg, ancien président de l'Institut International de Sociologie. 1 vol. in-80 de 392 pages, 1909. Paris: Girard et Brière, 16, rue Soufflot. (Tome XXXIX de la Bibliothèque Sociologique Internationale dirigée par M. René Worms.) Prix: broché, 8 francs; relié (reliure de la Bibliothèque), 9 francs.

It will be noticed by the title-page that this is an essay on a subject in which a further volume may be expected. The present volume deals with economic and social France in the period of the Revolution, with special reference to rural and agricultural France. In a subsequent volume Kovalevsky proposes to furnish a similar study of industrial France in the period of the Revolution, in which he will give special attention to the relations which existed between capital and labor at that time. The present volume does not touch this subject except indirectly. The fundamental conclusion of his investigation appears on the first page.

It is an error [he says] to believe that at the end of the eighteenth century the nobility and the clergy were the only possessing classes in France. The gradual evolution which had for its result the recovery into the hands of the bourgeoisie not only of movable property but also of land commenced long before 1789; but that evolution was masked by the fact that the citizens growing in wealth generally passed in the upper classes either by virtue of an act conferring nobility or by being a noble directly.

It is in consequence of the existence of this new order of nobility grafted upon the old that noblemen in the period of the Revolution were *par excellence* the possessors of the soil. Their contemporaries, however, did not confuse these new lords with the feudal nobility. Kovalevsky does not share the opinion of those who, like De Tocqueville, trace the origin of the small peasant proprietor to the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. He shows by numerous citations that the cultivator of lands possessed them in many instances by more than a mere title of tenancy for a long period.

The feudal tenures, far from being replaced by the small proprietors, gave place in the north and west of France to rents for a fixed term or to the direct management of domains by their lords or by companies of stockholders.

Where a copyhold tenure had been maintained the lords had diminished the benefits of their country vassals by abolishing profitless pasture and by reducing the acreage for commons, and by the augmentation of charges and pecuniary payments from their tenants. These tendencies were especially active in the years which preceded the Revolution. These tendencies greatly displeased the peasants who considered these augmentations as a crying abuse and thus suggested to them the idea of destroying by fire the records of the new customs of servitude as far as these were contained in the seignorial archives. Thus was prepared the way for the abolition of the feudal régime in the celebrated session on the night of August 4, 1789.

In the first chapter, entitled "The Possessing and Non-possessing Orders—The Directed and Directing Classes," numerous citations are made from the proceedings of agricultural conventions, from the records of rural parishes, from the writings of the physiocrats, and from private correspondence and memoirs of the time.

In a table showing the distribution of the rural population of some communes of the district of Chatillon, 27 per cent. of the inhabitants are reported as simple workmen and as possessing nothing but a thatched cottage; 21½ per cent. were reduced to mendicity. There were some 390 peasants who possessed in their own name some vineyards; 181 of these held land on rental.

Having in his first chapter given a detailed discussion of the ownership of lands, both static and historical, he proceeds in a more general way to consider seignorial rights and the economic and social situation of the peasants at the end of the eighteenth century. The division of the seignorial soil between free tenants and serfs tended to disappear gradually as the third estate undertook the exploitation of the soil either in the form of rentals or by direct management, and at the age of the Revolution the soil of France was no longer in the control of laborers and workmen, but it belonged to the nobility of the sword and of the robe, to those newly ennobled from the third estate, to high financiers, and finally to the church and religious congregations. By the sale of the property of the church and religious congregations as well as of

the emigrant nobles the Revolution restored the small bourgeoisie and the people of the country to the proprietorship of the soil. Thus it was by the fall of the nobility that the tenant copyholder came again into the free possession of lands of which he did not have the use for a long time.

This study by Kovalewsky constitutes for the modern student of the economic and social conditions of France an admirable source of information supplementing the well-known report of Arthur Young's travels through France on the eve of the Revolution.

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Lectures on the Industrial Revolution of the Eighteenth Century in England. By ARNOLD TOYNBEE. New Edition, together with a Reminiscence by LORD MILNER.. London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1908 Price, \$2.52.

This edition of Toynbee's *Industrial Revolution* is practically the same as that which has been before the public for a number of years. The publishers of the present edition state that the text is reprinted from the second edition of 1901. There is nothing new in it except the reminiscence by Lord Milner. This reminiscence was written as an address to the members of Toynbee Hall and delivered at that place in November, 1894. Though a few years older than Toynbee, Lord Milner and Toynbee were on terms of intimate friendship during several years of their life at Oxford. Milner recites how Toynbee, though not an honor student on account of his ill-health, was given an appointment to a lectureship immediately after his graduation through the influence of Jowett.

One may venture to call attention again to the extraordinary prescience of the popular addresses, notes, and other fragments of the late Arnold Toynbee which were collected by his widow with the aid of two distinguished students of Toynbee, viz., Mr. W. J. Ashley, now Professor Ashley of Birmingham University, and Mr. Bolton King of Balliol College. The greater portion of the book is made up of outline notes of a course of lectures delivered by Toynbee between October, 1881, and May, 1882, "On the Economic History of England from 1760 to 1840." These notes were given, subsequent to their delivery, the happy title of *The Indus-*